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## PART II.

### OFFICIAL PAPERS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

**Suspension and remission of wet assessment.**

Issues revised rules in the matter of——on tank irrigated lands and directs that the rules be adopted tentatively for a period of five years.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. C. 4276, dated 12th November 1921, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding a set of draft rules in the matter of suspension and remission of wet assessment on tank irrigated lands.

ORDER NO. R. 3748-58—L. R. 502-17-10, DATED 4th FEBRUARY 1922.

It has been the settled policy of Government as laid down in Government Orders No. 9048-55—Pet. 151, dated 16th April 1897, and R. 1211-2—L. R. 331-06-4, dated 10th August 1907, to grant partial remission of assessment only when there is a general failure of wet crop in any locality and consequent distress and not in individual cases where a tank on which lands are dependent for their irrigation does not obtain a sufficient supply of water in any year on account of deficient rainfall.

2. But it having been frequently pressed on the attention of Government at the successive Sessions of the Representative Assembly, that the existing policy should be changed so as to afford greater relief to the raiyats, a Special Committee of the Representative Assembly was constituted in Government Order No. Camp—C. 122-71—G. M. 418-17-1, dated 4th November 1917, to investigate the question of remission of wet

assessment under the Mysore, Madras and Bombay systems, and to examine the representations on the subject. The report of the Committee has been under the consideration of Government for some time past. In this connection the Revenue Commissioner has submitted his proposals which have been carefully considered by Government. In the last Session of the Assembly also the subject was discussed at length and the members were informed that the issue of suitable rules was under consideration and, that after these are issued they might make further representations, if necessary if the rules did not afford the expected relief.

3. Government are accordingly pleased to issue the following rules, in supersession of those now in force and to direct that they be adopted tentatively for a period of five years, after which any changes that may be deemed necessary in the light of the experience gained in their practical working will be further considered.

(1) Where owing to failure of rains throughout any tract, any tank in such tract has not received an adequate supply of water, so that more than half the area of wet lands under it has remained uncultivated, or has, even though cultivated, yielded a crop of not more than 4 annas, the recovery of half the assessment for the year on all the *wet* lands under such tank may be suspended by the Revenue Commissioner, provided that he is satisfied that the tract is already so impoverished or the previous harvests have been so poor as to render such a measure of relief necessary.

(2) The amount of assessment suspended under Rule (1) shall be collected in the following year along with that year's khistbandi, unless there is a similar failure of crop or a harvest of not more than 4 annas in that year also, in which case it will be remitted.

(3) Application for suspension or remission under Rules (1) and (2) should be made by the villagers concerned to the Amildar before the end of November.

(4) The Amildar shall, on receipt of the application, make a personal inspection of the affected tract and submit a report of the result, with a statement in the annexed form, to the Sub-Division Officer, who will forward it to the Deputy Commissioner by the end of December with his own opinion after personal inspection and such further enquiry as he may consider necessary to satisfy himself about the accuracy of the Amildar's report.

(5) On receipt of the report, the Deputy Commissioner shall, if he is satisfied with the claim of the villagers for suspension or remission as the case may be, submit a recommendation to the Revenue Commissioner, with a consolidated statement in the form mentioned above before the end of January.

(6) If the Revenue Commissioner considers that a good case for the grant of suspension under Rule (1) is made out, he will sanction the suspension and cause an announcement thereof to be made before the beginning of the khistbandi in February, and shall forthwith report the fact for the information of Government with particulars of the tract affected and the probable amount of the suspended revenue.

(7) When the Revenue Commissioner is of opinion that remission of the suspended revenue should be sanctioned under Rule (2) he will report the case to Government and obtain their orders in the matter.

(8) The above rules will be applicable only to lands under tanks and not to those under river and other channels, the supply to which is more or less certain and assured.

4. These rules will not affect those relating to the grant of remissions of assessment of lands lying waste by breach of the sources of irrigation (Pages 195-196 of the new Revenue Manual).

C. VENKATA RAO,
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